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From: Taveau, Daniella
Sent: Tue 11/17/2015 11:13:50 PM
Subject: Fwd: Emerging Philippines Issue That May Be Appropriate to Raise on Margins of APEC

Another proposed ban of glyphosate in the Philippines.

Daniella

Begin forwarded message:

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Date: November 17, 2015 at 2:23:23 PM EST
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Subject: Emerging Philippines Issue That May Be Appropriate to Raise on Margins of APEC

Julia,

Thanks for your counsel just now on the phone regarding our emerging issue in the Philippines.

As I mentioned, I just learned today from my colleagues in Manila that the Philippine Council for Agriculture & Fisheries (PCAF) – an advisory body within the Department of Agriculture composed of representatives of Regional & Provincial Councils for Agriculture & Fisheries (RAFC & PAFC) and whose Executive Director is appointed by the President – recently proposed a ban on the use & sale of glyphosate to the Department of Agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture does not have jurisdiction on restricting its use and I understand that the recommendation has referred to the Fertilizer & Pesticides Authority (FPA) which reports to the Presidential Assistant on Food Security & Agricultural Modernization.

Given the Minister's Statement released today at APEC on *Food Security, Agricultural Technical Cooperation, and Agricultural Biotechnology* in Manila and the recent US intervention at the WTO SPS Committee, perhaps US officials from our APEC team can signal concern on the margins of the APEC meetings to the Philippines delegation regarding how Philippines may approach this issue while reminding them of the US intervention regarding WTO obligations. An approach that would ignore prevailing science could be viewed as being in conflict with the principles of the Minister's Statement just issued.

This is the extent of detail I have at the moment. I think a USG exploratory conversation with Philippines officials seeking an update on this issue might be appropriate.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me immediately. I will share more details as they become available.

Many thanks,

Jim

Jim Travis

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